

# The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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## Norse code

Once-Norwegian Bay Ridge hosted the annual Nordic pride parade last Sunday, featuring Viking boats, marchers in Scandinavian garb and the crowning of Miss Norway of Greater New York, Sarah Lindland. More shots online.

## Affordable housing 10A Myrtle plan now all luxury

By Mike McLaughlin  
The Brooklyn Paper

The leaner, meaner real-estate market has forced one of the city's major developers to eliminate more than 200 affordable housing units in Downtown Brooklyn.

John Catsimatis, the billionaire owner of the Grisedes supermarket chain and possible mayoral candidate, told The Brooklyn Paper that he is now in a bind with his project, which was halted in February, and that it is now no longer the mixed-income community he originally proposed.

The result will yield "about the same number" of apartments, but instead of two towers, the grocery magnate will build four smaller, all-luxury apartment buildings, he said. Construction of the first, 12-story, 100-unit building will begin imminently on Myrtle Avenue east of Flatbush Avenue Extension, said Catsimatis.

## EXCLUSIVE

"It's a \$500-million project, except that no bank has \$500 million to loan, so we decided to break it up into four buildings," he said.

He also couldn't scrape up the city and state affordable housing bonds, so he cast off those politically popular below-market-rate units.

The loss of those subsidized apartments provides a cautionary tale for other mega-developments, like Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards, where thousands of affordable units have been indefinitely delayed, that promises of below-market-rate housing are only as strong as the availability of tax-

payer subsidies.

As a result, planners are tread- ing cautiously.

"We hope that [developers] will make every effort to work with housing agencies to maximize affordability," said Joe Chun, president of the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership, the quasi-governmental agency guiding development in the neighborhood. Housing experts voiced fresh concerns about the prospects for affordable housing.

"It's true that there is more demand for housing bonds than there used to be," said Brad Lander, director of the Pratt Center for Community Development, but "there are many resources to developing affordable housing."

"I have not heard about other projects except for the [Catsimatis and Atlantic Yards] projects where developers' promises for affordable housing were in jeopardy," added Lander, an affordable housing advocate.

That doesn't help Catsimatis. "It's a two-way affordability," he said. "Affordable to build and affordable to live in. You can't have one without the other."

Catsimatis's setbacks at his Myrtle Avenue project are being watched closely in the area bounded by Tillary, Jay and Fulton streets and Flatbush Avenue Extension — a neighborhood that was zoned in 2004 to encourage commercial and office space development.

The market shifted towards residential units, and developers are currently building thousands of mostly luxury units and several hotels.



"Telescopes" features a drill bit coming out of the Fulton Ferry Landing. It simulates a tunnel being drilled from London.

## DRILLING ART

Latest piece comes from the Underground

By Marie Cunningham  
The Brooklyn Paper

No, that's not a drill bit coming out of the Fulton Ferry Landing — it's a telescope that lets you see all the way to London.

OK, it's really an art project that touches on Victorian, futuristic and sci-fi themes — but the part about seeing London? That's entirely true.

It's called the "Telescope," and it was created by British artist Paul St. George, who said he was inspired to "dig" a "tunnel" between New York and London after finding his great-grandfather's notes for an immense, lens-filled Trans-Atlantic port-hole that would allow people to see their counterparts across the pond.

St. George's Telescope uses a fiber-optic visual connection between New York and London.

This week, St. George and his accomplices installed the project at night. By day, all of DUMBO was buzzing about the piece (just as Londoners were doing at the Telescope's eastern end near the Tower Bridge).

The goal is to connect people to each other — and to their public spaces, said its creators. "We hope it will bring people down to this great vantage point."

said Peter Kohlmann, 55, a producer of the project. "It's an interesting way of using the space and seeing how people come to use their imagination."

Martin Maczora and his 6-year-old daughter were certainly doing that on Wednesday when they happened upon the Telescope.

during a run to the Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory.

"It will be really interesting to see people in London," said Maczora.

"Telescope" is open until June 15. Views of London are provided free of charge. Visit [www.telescope.org](http://www.telescope.org) for information.

## Cops hold Terrace murder suspect

By Ben Muehsig  
The Brooklyn Paper

Police say they have nabbed the Park Slope man who robbed and murdered the beloved owner of a Windsor Terrace dry cleaners — but residents of the peaceful parkside neighborhood are furious that the alleged killer was even on the streets after having violated his parole.

Cops charged 14th Street resident Jamal Winter, 22, with the May 15 killing of Kyung-Sook Woo, who ran the Eden Dry Cleaners on the corner of 10th Avenue and Windsor Place.

Witnesses say that Winter stalked out the shop on the day of the attack, prompting Woo — a 52-year-old Queens resident who went by the name Linda — to tell friends she was nervous.

But cops, apparently, were unaware of Woo's concerns.

Police say that Winter fatally strangled Woo in a rear bathroom between 4:38 pm — when a witness spotted Winter with Woo inside the shop — and 7:05 pm — when Winter told a passerby that Woo had left and that the establishment was closed.

See TERRACE MURDER on page 16



Police sketch of the murder suspect.

## It's art, for God's sake

By Mike McLaughlin  
The Brooklyn Paper

The Bible says that God created the universe in six days. It took slightly longer for a Sunset Park artist to tackle the epic task of painting every one of His Old Testament commandments.

Indeed, Archie Rand spent five years painting all 613 commandments on individual canvases in a "Mad magazine style," and in doing so, he may have broken a few along the way ("Do not make human forms even for decorative purposes," was commandment number 31, according to Maimonides's system, and "Do not derive benefit from ornaments of idols," number 55).

"They are very vulgar images and they are painted in garish colors," Rand said of his canvases. (Vulgar? Garish? Watch out — this self-described secular Jew may be racking up sins left and right.)

When the paintings are all arranged according to the medieval philosopher's order, they take up a 22-by-100-foot wall in a Clinton Hill warehouse, quite possibly the biggest painting in the world.

See TORAH on page 16



Archie Rand, a professor of art at Brooklyn College, turned a warehouse wall in Clinton Hill into a 15-foot-tall, 93-foot-wide mural depicting 613 commandments in the Jewish Torah.

## Tourists' welcome map

Finally, new signs point lost souls in right direction

By Marie Cunningham  
The Brooklyn Paper

Tourists will no longer be scratching their heads searching for the long-hidden Brooklyn Bridge footpath, thanks to a new map, directional signs, travel guides and stunning lighting on our side of the storied span.

"This Way" by its designers — unveiled on Wednesday afternoon by Borough President Markowitz, Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan and DUMBO Improvement District Executive Director Tucker Reed, one day before the bridge's 125th birthday celebration. Reed said the two-year, \$1.5-million project had been his agency's "number one" priority.

It's no wonder why: Not only have tourists long been stymied by the dark underpass where the previously unmarked stairway

to the bridge's walkway begins, but DUMBO residents have often been called upon to direct the out-of-towners.

The benefits of "This Way"

— which includes a detailed map of DUMBO and Brooklyn Heights, plus a tourist guide — were immediately apparent to those who might otherwise

have become lost in the unfamiliar maze of neighborhoods and attractions so close, yet so far away, to the end of the bridge's footpath.

"The [signs] look good and they're eye-catching," said Chris Yovanovitch, who was in from Columbus, Ohio, for the day with her husband and daughter. "I like the pictures and the history."

Sadik-Khan and others said the signs were vital because too many tourists would turn back towards Manhattan upon reaching the Brooklyn side because they didn't know where they were.

"A single sign can make all the difference in the world [toward] connecting the historic Brooklyn Bridge to the equally historic neighborhoods around it," said Sadik-Khan, who actually biked to the press conference.

But days before, tourists were still wandering through the confusing area underneath the dark



Over the years, Roslyn Beck has painted and posted dozens of her own signs pointing the way to the Brooklyn Bridge footpath. Now she says her job is done.

## Who'll fill Vito's void?

Contenders line up to take his place

By Mike McLaughlin  
The Brooklyn Paper

Humiliated Rep. Vito Fossella ended the speculation around his own political career by revealing that he would not seek re-election this fall — an announcement that set off intense jockeying on both sides of the political aisle.

Fossella (R-Bay Ridge) quietly exited the stage by posting a letter on his congressional Web site on Tuesday that told his scandal-tired constituents that he would give up the fight to retain his Bay Ridge-Staten Island seat.

"The choice was an extremely difficult one, balanced between my dedication to service our great nation and the need to concentrate on healing the wounds that I have caused my wife and family," he wrote, referring to his wife Mary Pat, the mother of three of Fossella's four known children.

Fossella's letter did not mention the congressman's secret family in Alexandria, Virginia — his mistress Paula Fay and the 3-year-old daughter they share.

Hours later, Mary Pat Fossella put her own spin on the crisis that wrecked her marriage, breaking her silence in an e-mail to the New York Post.

"I am very saddened by how the world I was living unraveled before my eyes and everyone else's," she wrote. "My focus will continue to be on [my] three children, as it has been, as I have always maintained a very private life."

Fossella's decision to retire capped a stunning

See FOSSELLA on page 16



Harrison (D)



McMahon (D)



Gentile (D)



Savino (D)



Oddo (R)



Lanza (R)



Donovan (R)



Cusick (R)



American Leather  
Atlantico De La Espada  
BDI  
Blue Dot  
Calligaris  
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Ekornes  
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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

Compiled by Mariel Cohn

# Creative Cooks opens on Atlantic



Families with kids in Brownstone Brooklyn: get ready! Creative Cooks is opening on June 1st.

Emily Rios' new center in Boerum Hill offers birthday parties, school and camp visits and cooking classes for children, ages 2 to 13, and their parents. Through fun and engaging hands-on activity, classes focus on learning to cook and eat healthy. The idea is to encourage children to be creative and to express themselves through food, while learning about kitchen safety, proper food handling, and how to follow a recipe.

Rios is among the burgeoning group of child-centric businesses in the area, such as Cosmic Cove, Creative Arts Studio, The Little Gym and NYC Explorers. She sees the opening of Creative Cooks in the old Bad Apple building as an exciting and inspiring symbol of the positive developments occurring along Atlantic Avenue. Creative Cooks will redefine number 298, turning "Bad Apples into baked apples," she says.

Creative Cooks is at 298 Atlantic Ave. between Smith and Hoyt streets. Two open houses are scheduled for Wednesday, June 4th and 11th, from 6-8 p.m. For more information, call (917) 922-3896, or visit [www.creativecooks.us](http://www.creativecooks.us).

## UrbanGlass

There is still time to register for summer classes or private lessons at UrbanGlass, a working glass studio in Fort Greene that teaches the crafts of glassblowing, casting, lampworking, neon, kilnforming, mosaics, stained glass, and jewelry making. People of all levels of experience are welcome.

In addition to its regular course offerings, UrbanGlass has a unique summer class called "Glassblowing For Younger Folks," for children ages 14 and up, during the week of June 23 (Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm). Taught by a certified instructor, it promises to be a unique learning experience.

You can read more about summer and fall classes and register online (address below). Watch the artisans at work, or visit the UrbanGlass store every day except Monday from 10 am to 6 pm.

UrbanGlass is at 447 Fulton St. in Fort Greene; the entrance is around the corner at 57 Rockwell Place. (718) 625-3685, [www.urbanglass.org](http://www.urbanglass.org).

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## Mitchell's Bar and Grill

Mitchell's Bar and Grill fuses together deli, grill, and bar style food. They have a romantic private garden that is a perfect place to enjoy lunch or dinner, and serve everything from pizza and falafel, to steak and seafood.

Try the tasty fish and prosciutto pizza (S17), chicken, beef, and lamb kebabs (S13), or numerous vegetarian dishes.

One of Mitchell's most popular steak house dishes is the 22 oz. Cowboy, a juicy and delicious ribeye Angus steak that is grilled to perfection.




Weekend brunch at Mitchell's is the best! Starting at 11 am and ending at 3 pm, tea and coffee or one mimosa is included with the brunch entree of your choice for \$9.50.

For everyday lunch, Mitchell's has a special deli menu with a variety of different pizza and sandwich choices, all under \$10. And the backlot bar is a great place to hang with friends.

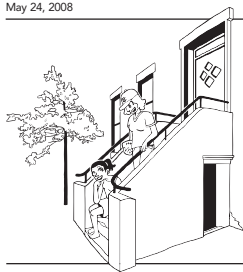
Mitchell's Bar and Grill, 259 Flatbush Ave., between St. Marks Street and South Avenue. Call (718) 484-4114 or visit [www.mitchellsbarandgrill.com](http://www.mitchellsbarandgrill.com). Open every day from 7 am to midnight. Mitchell's accepts American Express, MasterCard and Visa cards.

# BrooklynShops

The Brooklyn Paper's Guide to Local Services & Merchants

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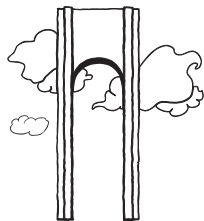
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# THE stoop

BAY RIDGE-BENSONHURST

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## Bay Ridge's Atlantic Yards?

By Ben Muessig  
The Brooklyn Paper

A developer's controversial plan to build a Home Depot above a railyard on the border of Sunset Park and Bay Ridge has been abandoned until the economy rebounds.

Developer Andrew Kohlen told The Brooklyn Paper this week that he can't move forward with his 11-story building — which includes the 100,000-square-foot superstore, 216 apartments and office space — until the market recovers.

"We are waiting and hoping for the economic environment to improve," said Kohlen, whose project initially faced opposition from Community Board 10 because of its size.

In the end, though, the board last July approved Kohlen's plan



Developer Andrew Kohlen (left in photo above) says the economic downturn has forced him to temporarily abandon his controversial Home Depot and apartment complex plan (right), which earned a hard-fought approval last year.

for the corner of 62nd Street and Eighth Avenue.

But then, the economy slowed.

Kohlen's development joins a number of higher-profile projects that have stalled in the aftermath of the sub-prime mortgage crisis.

Bruce Ratner has struggled to save his ailing Atlantic Yards project near Downtown Brooklyn. The cost of the basketball arena has more than doubled to \$950 million, an anchor tenant has not come forward for the iconic Miss Brooklyn tower, and the developer now says only one of his original 16 skyscrapers remains in the once \$4-billion plan.

And this week, developer and mayoral candidate John Catsimatidis announced that he had



eliminated affordable units in his 660-unit project on Myrtle Avenue in Fort Greene because of the credit crisis (see story on page 1). Nonetheless, Kohlen is confident that the market will recover and he will build the Home Depot.

"I'm an optimistic person," he said. "I always see the glass as half full."

## Harbor Motor Inn



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## Key Food fight

By Ben Muessig  
The Brooklyn Paper

Bay Ridge is hoping that the pen is mightier than the store.

Irate Ridgites are petitioning against the closing of the Key Food on Third Avenue and 95th Street, which is slated to become a Walgreens pharmacy in June.

"We don't need a pharmacy — we need a grocery store," said 93rd Street resident Denise Loli, who along with other protesters has gathered more than 1,000 signatures. "That property has been a grocery store for over 50 years and it should stay a grocery store."

Petitioners say that Key Food is crucial to Bay Ridge — especially for elderly residents who cannot make it to Foodtown at 91st Street.

One Key Food shopper, who gets around in a wheelchair, has been gathering signatures in the supermarket's parking lot. Mary Kahn says that shopping at the Foodtown four blocks away is impossible because the aisles are too narrow to navigate.

That store, however, has announced an expansion plan.

Elected officials say that it's not clear that any number of signatures could force a grocery to move into the site.

"Our role is very limited, but we're trying to intercede," said John Quaglione, spokesman for state Sen. Marty Golden (R-Bay Ridge). "If it has been sold, then it's a commercial business replacing a commercial business — there really isn't anything that we can do about it."

Key Food did not respond.

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## Ferry needs riders

By Ben Muessig  
The Brooklyn Paper

The new ferry service between Bay Ridge and the Lower Manhattan with a stop at the 98th Street pier at the Brooklyn Army Terminal, started last Monday — three and a half months after Fox cancelled a similar service because of low ridership, high gas prices, and a lack of city funding.

Now that he has public funds and additional riders from Queens, Fox says he will be able to counter fuel costs that eat up about \$200 per trip. So when the city subsidy dries up in 2010, Fox will need a surge of passengers paying the \$6 fare.

"If we had 700 passengers a day, we'd break even without the subsidy," said Fox, who boats carried a maximum of 150 commuters per day during the first three days of its much-ballyhooed service last week.

"But this just started, so the numbers [of riders] are going to go up," said the optimistic Fox. "As the word gets out, we're hopeful that there will be additional demand."

The city is also banking on increased demand for waterborne transit.

Mayor Bloomberg has announced plans to bring new ferries to South Williamsburg in July to shuttle commuters from Schaefer Landing to the Financial District and East 34th Street.

By 2010, the city plans to construct two federally funded piers in North Brooklyn — one at the Edge condos at North Sixth Street and another at a yet-to-be-determined Greenpoint Avenue site.

Similar service was scuttled this winter due to lack of ridership and high fuel costs.



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# Threesome mugged with six fists

## 78TH PRECINCT

**Park Slope**  
Two teenagers were arrested and charged with brutally beating and mugging three teenagers on Tony Plaza Street West on May 16. A third assailant remains at large.

The victims — two boys and a girl — told cops that they were walking near the corner of Bleecker Place at around 10:15 pm when three teens approached, each choosing a victim to rough up.

"Give me your stuff," one of the assailants said, grabbing one of the boys' cellphone, iPod and wallet, which contained a mere \$5.

Meanwhile, the second perp grabbed the other guy, demanding his iPod. When he said he did not have one of the popular digital music devices, the thugs punched him in the jaw.

At the same time, the third teen hoodlum asked to see the girl's iPod. She also said she did not have such a player, and started to walk off. But that only enraged the perp, who hit her in the back of the head, cops said.

All three perps fled north towards Flatbush Avenue. Hours later, cops picked up two 14-year-olds and charged them with the crime.

## myPod

A thief snatched an iPod right out of a woman's hand on Union Street on May 17. The 21-year-old music lover told cops that she was on the block between Grand Army Plaza and Eighth Avenue at around 4:45 pm when the teenage punk ran up and grabbed the popular device from her.

The Manhattan woman reported that the thief — and an accomplice — ran into Prospect Park, where she lost sight of them.

## Bookworm

A fly pickpocket stole two wallets from a woman's bag as she browsed inside a Seventh Avenue bookstore on May 14.

The victim told cops that she was in the store, which is at the corner of Sixth Street, from 8:30 to 9:15 pm. Only when she left, did she notice that her wallets — which contained various cards, but no cash — were gone.

## Wheely bad

At least one car was stolen — and another broken into — last week off Park Slope streets. Here's a roundup:

• A 2001 Jeep was stolen from its parking space on Third Street sometime after 10 pm on May 17. The 45-year-old owner told cops she had left the car between Fifth and Sixth avenues, but it was gone when she returned to it at noon the next day.

• Following an ongoing pattern in the neighborhood, a satellite-guided navigation system was stolen out of a car that had been parked at the corner of Eastern Parkway and Flatbush Avenue on May 10.

The 32-year-old driver, who lives in Pennsylvania, told cops that he had parked the car at around 6 pm, but when she returned 90 minutes later, she found the car ransacked and the digital map system stolen, along with \$500, a cellphone and various credit and debit cards.

As reported in The Brooklyn Paper last week, cops in the 78th Precinct are seeing a rash of thefts of navigation systems.

## It starts

The strip of Flatbush Avenue between Grand Army Plaza and the Prospect Park Zoo made its first appearance of the season in the police blotter, thanks to a would-be thief who smashed a car window on May 15.

Regular readers of the blotter know that the strip is often the scene of such criminal mischief during the summer. In this case, the perp broke the window at around noon, and then tinkered with the steering column, though he was unable to swipe the car.

## Mr. Freeze

A sharp-eyed cop nabbed a cold-handed thief who had allegedly stolen an outdoor freezer unit from a Third Avenue gas station just before midnight on May 14.

Surveillance footage from the gas station at the corner of Butler Street showed two men pull up at around 11:20 pm, load the freezer into their green van, and drive off. One of the men's faces is clearly visible on the tape.

About 12 hours later, that same man was driving on Ninth Street near the Gowanus Canal when Officer Michael Furia stopped him because of a defective brake light.

Furia quickly determined that the driver matched the description of the perp on the surveil-

## POLICE BLOTTER

### lance tale, and arrested him.

Mr. Freeze is now facing grand larceny and possession of stolen property charges — along with a violation for that broken tail light.

## Backdoor man

A thief snatched a laptop and cellphone from the front desk of a store while the owner was in a back room on May 13.

The victim told cops he was only out of sight for a few minutes at around 9:20 pm, but that was enough time for the thief to grab the computer and BlackBerry device from the store, which is between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place.

## Worked out

A thief grabbed a woman's bag out of her unsecured locker at a Flatbush Avenue gym on May 13, cops said.

The 44-year-old victim told police that she left the bag in a locker at the gym, which is between Seventh Avenue and Sterling Place, at around 10:45 am.

When she returned after an hour on the machines, she discovered the bag was gone.

She lost \$213 and various cards — which were promptly cancelled.

## 67th PRECINCT

**Red Hook-Carroll Gardens**  
**Cobble Hill-Borough Hill**  
**Gone forever**

A man plucked a diamond necklace from a woman on Second Avenue on May 15. The 22-year-old victim told cops she was walking at 5:50 pm, between Court and Smith streets, seizing the jewelry from the 67-year-old woman, leaving her with lacerations that were treated on the scene.

## Choked up

Muggers choked a man into submission before robbing him on Baltic Street on May 14, cops said.

One hoodlum attacked the man from behind at 1:40 pm, between Bond and Hoyt streets, strangling him until his accomplice was able to steal the 55-year-old victim's cellphone, two rings on his fingers and \$7.

## Out from under

A purse-snatcher nabbed a woman while she sat under a hair dryer in a Court Street salon on May 11.

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## 68TH PRECINCT

### Bay Ridge

**Bed bugged**  
A man broke into an 80th Street house and attempted to climb into the bed with an unsuspecting woman at night on May 18.

The 25-year-old victim was asleep in the bedroom of the house, which is between 11th and 12th avenues, when she was awakened by a man who put his finger to her lips — the universal sign to keep quiet — and started to climb into the bed.

The victim screamed, and her mother came downstairs and pushed the suspect, who then ran out.

## Gun mug

A man was cornered and robbed while walking down 67th Street on May 16.

The 18-year-old victim was between 11th and 12th avenues when two men approached from behind and one, who appeared to be wearing a gun underneath his sweatshirt, threatened, "Give me your money or I will shoot you!" The second suspect reached into the teenager's pockets and grabbed his wallet and cell phone. The two thugs fled toward 12th Avenue.

## Purse grab

Someone snatched a woman's purse from her Fourth Avenue office on May 15.

The 42-year-old victim said that when she got to her office, which is between 69th and 70th streets, at around noon, she placed her purse in an unlocked locker.

When she came back for it about 12 hours later, it was gone.

The thief got more than \$100 and the woman's credit and debit cards.

## 88th PRECINCT

### Greenwich-Cobble Hill

**Drive-by**  
A man was shot in the leg during a drive-by shooting on Grand Avenue on May 14.

A witness told police that he was talking with the 38-year-old victim between Gates and Putnam avenues at around midnight when several shots were fired from the passenger side of a tan sedan.

One of the bullets hit the victim, who told police he didn't see anything.

## Tooling around

Two men piloted a Cambridge Place construction site, looting enough tools to start their own carpentry company.

The culprits peeked back plywood to get into the future residence, between Greene and Gates avenues, sometime between 5 pm on May 12 and 7:30 am the following day, carrying off dozens of drills, saws and other tools.

## Three-way arrest

Police intercepted three teens whom they saw trying to rob another young man on the corner of Washington and DeKalb avenues on May 12.

In addition to the three 14-year-olds, two others escaped the long arm of the law after trying to steal a portable video game system from the 15-year-old victim at 4:30 pm.

## Concrete jungle

Ruffians brazenly mugged a man on Grand Avenue in the middle of the afternoon on May 13.

Three men attacked the victim from behind at around 3:30 pm, knocking him down near the corner of Lefferts Place.

While they fled with his wallet, the 27-year-old victim was taken to Long Island College Hospital for lacerations above his eye.

## Hats off

Two thugs snatched a woman on Washington Avenue on May 12, but botched their attempted purse snatching.

The muggers surrounded the 27-year-old lady and threw her to the ground near the corner of Myrtle Avenue at around 10:15 pm, causing injuries to her back, wrist and neck.

## Gimme that

Teenage muggers unsheathed a knife to steal another teen's iPod on Clinton Avenue on May 14.

The covetous perps cornered the 14-year-old between DeKalb and Lafayette avenues at 3:30 pm, and one asked, "Is that an iPod?" It sure was, so one of the suspects brandished a sharp blade, frightening the victim into giving up the device — along with \$8.

## Phone grab

A mugger wrested an iPhone away from its owner on DeKalb Avenue on May 14.

Using the element of surprise, the thief struck from behind, yanking away the popular gadget at 5 pm, close to the corner of Fort Greene Place.

## Disarmed

Thieves broke into a car parked in a gated lot on Willoughby Street on May 14, stealing the owner's handgun, wallet, laptop and iPod.

The victim told police that he left his vehicle in the presumably secure garage at the corner of Fleet Street at 3:30. He returned a half-hour later to find his window smashed and his possessions — including a .38-cal-

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## FATHERS AND SONS

### Greenpoint-Williamsburg

**Masked morons**  
Teenage boys wearing colored bandanas robbed a man and a woman in separate incidents on May 16.

In the first case, five boys with red and blue cloaks around their faces approached a man as he walked down Driggs Avenue just after midnight.

The suspects surrounded the 33-year-old victim at the corner of North Fourth Street and warned, "Don't do anything stupid." The suspects then reached into the man's pockets, grabbing his phone and \$100 before fleeing.

## 94TH PRECINCT

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Later that day, two teenage boys wearing black and red bandanas cornered a woman on

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# This green toilet doesn't stink!

Talk about a crappy assignment! The other day, the boss sent me over to the Hollenback Community Garden on Washington Avenue in Fort Greene to check out its new-fangled, solar-powered composting toilet.

A group of United Nations dignitaries had visited the wacky watercloset earlier this month to determine whether such green latrines could be useful overseas. My own fact-finding mission was more personal: could it stand up to what Brooklyn — the home of Peter Lager, Junior's Cheesecake and DiFuria Pizzeria — dishes out?

Now, some reporters would've grumbled at this toilet duty, but I took this assignment as seriously as any other. In fact, the night before, I helped myself to a prodigious feast — then woke up and downed two bowls of Nature's Path Optimum Power Breakfast (10 grams of fiber per serving!) and two large cups of coffee.

Do the math — I was ready to review this eco-toilet. But was the eco-toilet ready for me?

Entering the urban outhouse, I wasn't entirely sure. Yes, there was the traditional "throne," but no flusher. Instead, there's a barrel of wood chips (I later found out that they would aid in the, er, composting of my, er, deposit).

Mike Dimpf, who tends a plot in the garden, talked me through my green defecation. "It looks like a normal toilet," he said, "but everything below the floor level is different."

In other words, once it leaves your body, the



Our columnist (above) got a chance to try out the green latrine at the Hollenback Community Garden in Clinton Hill, where he tinkled and then sprinkled, as per the sign.

## THE BROOKLYN ANGLE

By Gersh Kuntzman

### THE INSIDE POOP

"stink" doesn't go down a pipe to a sewage treatment plant or get flushed into the Gowanus. First, "the solid and liquid waste is separated," Dimpf said, assuring me, thankfully, that I wouldn't have to perform that task myself.

The solid waste sits on a "landing pad" (don't worry; you won't have to land there yourself) to slowly degrade with the help of a solar-powered fan that sends air wafting over the pit.

"Eventually, you have a tank full of compost that you can use," he said.

Besides that, this non-flushable toilet doesn't waste water or tax sewage systems. That sounded good, but I still felt guilty leaving such a hefty deposit for the Hollenback gardeners. Dimpf quickly reassured me.

"You should feel proud that you're giving back to your community," he said. I reminded him that I really gave back. Not to be graphic, but I gave back so much to the community that I should get a proclamation from Marty Markowitz.

"Believe me, it's wonderful," he said.

That's quite a relief (if you know what I mean).

# At Coney, Sitt's audacity of 'Hope'

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

Developer Joe Sitt is bringing new rides and attractions to Coney Island and has rechristened the next three months the "Summer of Hope" for the beleaguered amusement district. Opponents, however, say Sitt represents a "Future of Nope" for the fabled "People's Playground."

Piggybacking on the uplifting rhetoric of presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama, Sitt's company, Thor Equities, will jazz up

Stillwell Avenue for the hot weather months, first with a traveling carnival making a 10-day run near the Boardwalk and then with an ensemble of rides, sidewalk curiosities like the world's biggest alligator and smallest woman, plus a petting zoo for the kiddies.

"It's going to be the most new rides brought in decades," said Thor spokesman Stefan Friedman. "The hope is that this is the first step of the revitalization of Coney Island."

But the real first step would be a final resolution of the city

and Sitt's longstanding conflict over their competing visions for the amusement area.

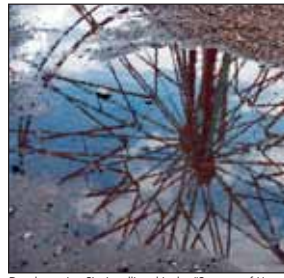
Sitt, the principal landowner in Coney Island amusement area, wants to build a \$2-billion, Vegas-style, 24-7-365, indoor-outdoor Canada, featuring rides, stores, theaters and hotels.

The city has rejected that plan, unveiling its own plan to buy Sitt and other landowners' properties and turn them into a 15-acre amusement park.

But that plan has since been scaled back to a plan for a nine-acre amusement zone and an adjacent "entertainment retail" area — a scheme that alienated some of the city's earlier supporters, who say the city is snubbing amusement zone operators in order to win over Sitt and other private landowners.

To them, the city might as well renounce the neighborhood "Coney Island."

"This is capitulation to Joe Sitt and it won't wash," said Dick Zigun, of Coney Island USA, one of the groups that was organizing a beachfront protest for Thursday — on the eve of Memorial Day weekend and the start of the beach season.



Developer Joe Sitt is calling this the "Summer of Hope" because he's adding rides to his vacant Coney plots.

Another Sitt opponent, Angie Pontani, the reigning Miss Cyclone, added: "The city professed [this] commitment to preserving the amusement district and, in the end, they completely compromised it."

That said, Zigun and other operators did have some kind

words for Sitt's "Summer of Hope."

As long as there are carnival operators and they are safe and everyone has a good time, then it's a plus," said Astroland operator Carol Albert, who sold her land to Sitt three years ago, and has been a critic ever since.

## City brakes b'ldg

Walentas stopped on Atlantic Ave.

By Mike McLaughlin

The Brooklyn Paper

The city has halted construction of an Atlantic Avenue apartment building, saying it violated the Cobble Hill Historic District's height limit.

In a battle that centered more on semantics than zoning, the Department of Buildings told DUMBOlingin David Walentas he must remove rooftop structures that he calls "stairway bulkheads," that the city decided were residential spaces that violate the district's 50-foot limit.

Several city agencies had agreed with Walentas and his Two Trees Management that the building met city code.

Now the Department of Buildings disagrees with that assessment, nullifying the initial clearances and saying that it has "objections to the plans, such as ... the use of the stair bulkheads at the roof."

Two Trees "must begin addressing the objections [by May 30] or the permit for the new building will be revoked," the Department of Buildings said.

In spite of the city order to reconfigure the bulkheads on the partially constructed building, Two Trees maintains its controversial rooftop should be in the clear.

"The bulkheads are not in any way 'habitable' space," the company said in a statement. Walentas, who earned his nickname "Cabrera Boy" by adding the luxury amenity to many of his projects, had unsuccessfully tried to skirt the neighborhood's maximum height last year, asking permission from the city to construct a 60-foot building. He said the extra height was needed so his company could make enough money to continue costly maintenance on the neighboring landmark Independence Bank building, which is slated to be the future home of Brooklyn's first Trader Joe's grocery. The City Council rejected the 60-foot exemption in November.

Opponents of Walentas's project were crowing about his latest setback.

"[T]he rise is] that you can't build anything inhabitable or residential above 50 feet," said Jeff Strubbe, president of the Cobble Hill Association. But Two Trees was "trying to do it through chicanery."

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Saturday, June 21  
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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

May 24, 2008



# Young Turks

Brooklyn film festival promises reel excitement in its 11th year

By Adam Rathe  
The Brooklyn Paper

As the summer blockbuster season heats up with familiar faces — we're looking at you, Indiana Jones and Carrie Bradshaw — local cinephiles will have the chance to check out some truly original movies as the Brooklyn International Film Festival lights up screens across the borough for its 11th year.

Showcasing 17 feature films, 31 shorts, documentaries, kid flicks, experimental films and animation, the festival's theme is "Cineergy," which, according to festival executive director Marco Ursino, is just as much about the films as it is about the culture surrounding them.

"In a world that is disconnected, politically and socially," said Ursino, "we are trying to create a perfect environment where everyone can have a civil conversation."

The festival will open on Friday, May 30 with the U.S. premiere of "Able Danger," by Dina

main character inspired by Sander Hicks, owner of Krik's local book store, Vox Pop — and, of course, it features international lust and danger.

"I think it's amazing, I feel honored and ecstatic," said Krik. "It's the perfect opening for a Brooklyn film — I couldn't ask for more."

Following the screening, a party — featuring free beer, courtesy of Stella Artois, and hors d'oeuvres — will offer ample opportunities to discuss the provocative flick.

A late-night bash is an apt way to kick off the series, according to Ursino, since this year's participants all have one thing in common.

"It's geared towards a younger filmmaker," he said. "We went with young filmmakers as a way to say we want some fresh energy — or maybe we're just getting old. It's going to be a young, exciting crowd."

And where are there more youthful and exciting people than right here in Brooklyn?

"Everyone I know, all the young artists and creative people, live in Brooklyn now," said Judson Morgan, a filmmaker whose Brooklyn Heights-based film, "The Collective," is screen-

## CINEMA

The Brooklyn International Film Festival runs May 30 to June 6 at the Brooklyn Lyceum (227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope) and the Brooklyn Heights Cinema (70 Henry St. at Orange Street in Brooklyn Heights). Tickets to individual screenings are \$10. Opening night begins at 7:30 pm at the Brooklyn Lyceum. Tickets are \$15. For information, call (718) 388-4305 or visit [www.biff.org](http://www.biff.org).

ing on May 31. "What's exciting for us is to play in this amazing part of New York — that's where all of the creative juices are flowing. Because it's in Brooklyn, it has a cache that most other film festivals don't have."

No one can argue with that. According to Ursino, the festival had 2,099 submissions from 96 countries this year — a huge number for a series that is only screening 102 films, including the May 31 East Coast premiere of "August," a new thriller starring Josh Hartnett and David Bowie. Local filmmakers are well represented, too.

"Our movie was shot entirely in Brooklyn, and we really made Brooklyn a character in the film as much as the [actors] and everything else," said Dan Eberle, the Windsor Terrace resident whose film, "The Local," will have its world premiere on June 3. "We were very much looking forward to opening the film here at some point, and it's quite appropriate that we're showing this movie at

Just Josh-ing: Among the films featured in 2008's Brooklyn International Film Festival are "August" (above), starring Josh Hartnett and David Bowie; "The Collective" (top left); and "The Local" (center), by Windsor Terrace director-star Dan Eberle.

Brooklyn's premier film festival."

Eberle's film was shot in Red Hook, Kensington and Flatbush, but thanks to a bit of movie magic, he said that some views were rendered unrecognizable.

"The movie takes place in an alternate reality, and Brooklyn looks like it's never looked before," he said. "Brooklyn looks like a hell-scape, which, of course, it is not. And it's been exciting to see the reactions when we screen the movie for people who live around here."

While Eberle gave the borough a gritty makeover, some filmmakers were happy with the scenery just the way they found it.

"I grew up in Park Slope and The Brooklyn Paper was something I always saw around, and it was part of my life," said Kevan Tucker, a director whose first feature film, "The Unidentified," was filmed in part in The Brooklyn Paper's DUMBO newsroom, will have its world premiere at the fest on June 1. "Like The Brooklyn Paper, the film festival was something I grew up with — it was an integral part of my film education. While we submitted to a lot of festivals, this one seemed very appropriate to be our world premiere."

bies," as well as two of Mary Engel's short films — one looking at the life of each of her parents.

"I think both my parents would have been thrilled," said Engel. "The films are wonderful, historical jewels of New York in the 1950s."

"It's just amazing. My father always thought people were confused about whether he was a photographer or a filmmaker, but he would say his life as a filmmaker couldn't get any better," said Engel. "Because 'Little Fugitive' had such an impact on people, the interest in it is just endless."

"The Films of Morris Engel with Ruth Orkin" is available for rent at Video Forum (133 Seventh Ave. at Carroll Street in Park Slope). For information, or to purchase a copy of the film, \$39.95, visit [www.kino.com](http://www.kino.com).

— Adam Rathe



## The right 'Engel'

It might be the last summer for Astroland, but certain parts of Coney Island will live on forever. With the release of "The Films of Morris Engel with Ruth Orkin" earlier this month, Engel's timeless film "Little Fugitive," can be embraced by a new generation of fans.

Originally released in 1953, "Little Fugitive" (starring Richie Andrusco, at left) follows the adventures of a seven-year-old who runs away to Coney for a day and night of exploration and adventure. Engel, a Williamsburg-born filmmaker, and Orkin, his wife and collaborator — who sometimes worked as his editor — were

notable figures in independent film, known for shooting films outside of the studio system and in real surroundings, often New York City.

"Going back to Coney Island for 80 minutes through the film, it's magical," said Park Slope Mary Engel, the couple's daughter. "It's always mistaken for being a kids movie and it's not. The story of the little boy and the magic of, back then, being able to be alone in Coney Island, people long for that."

The film has been packed in a boxed set with two other Engel-Orkin classics, 1955's "Lovers and Lollipops" and 1958's "Weddings and Bi-

## MUSIC

### Yard's back

The Yard's second season on the banks of the Gowanus Canal kicks off Saturday, May 24 with a concert featuring jazz spoken word artist Mike Ladd, as well as singer-songwriter Grey Reverend (pictured) and Bushwick's No Surrender, an electronic dance group.

Upcoming events include more live music, barbecues, dance parties and family activities.

"[Experience Brooklyn] is a totally different way than you normally [would], sitting on a picnic table watching a band, not fighting for space packed into a room," said Jen Lyon, one of the venue's owners. "It's a no-pressure situation."

Some highlights from last year, which Lyon said will return this summer, were "Sabbath in the Park," a day of Black Sabbath music — a chance for Boomers to put on "band T-shirts that they haven't worn since high school" — and a "Harvest Fest," replete with hay rides and live chickens, that drew a crowd of 1,000.

"[We] try to bring in as many different kinds of people as [we] can," Lyon said.

Events at The Yard (388-400 Carroll St. at Bond Street in Gowanus) begins at 4 pm on May 24 and run through October. Cover charges vary; admission on May 24 is \$15. For more information, visit [www.theyard.nyc](http://www.theyard.nyc).

— Kate Ray

## DANCE

### Let's 'Dance'

When Chuck Davis, artistic director of DanceAfrica, answered his phone, he was listening to music that was so loud that his voice was hardly audible.

"I've got to listen to music each morning," he said.

A desire to start the day with song isn't surprising considering that Davis is now in his 31st year of coordinating the DanceAfrica festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

"DanceAfrica 2008: Bridge to Cultural Rejuvenation and Enlightenment" returned to Fort Greene on May 18 with traditional and modern African dance, featuring everything from live performances, like Atlanta's Gwiyana Mata (pictured), which will perform in the Howard Gilman Opera House May 24-26, to dance classes, movies and a shopping bazaar.

"This year is built on the same premise as always, that is, to make the tradition born on the continent of Africa come alive, so we can foster understanding between people from other cultures," said Davis. "We do that because there is an old saying, 'To learn the people, you study the dance; and to learn the dance, you study the people.'"

Running through Memorial Day, DanceAfrica will feature artists from as close as Bedford-Stuyvesant and as far as Gambia.

"DanceAfrica 2008: Bridge to Cultural Rejuvenation and Enlightenment" runs through May 26 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, 30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene. Tickets are \$20-\$45. For information, call (718) 636-4100 or visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

— Adam Rathe

## BOOKS

### Boro pages

If you have a hard time telling the difference between the Brick Theater and BRICStudio, we've got the book for you. On April 28, the Brooklyn Arts Council released its "Directory of Brooklyn Arts Organizations," a

tell-all guide to 539 cultural institutions borough-wide, with a party at the Dweck Center at the Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch.

"We know that Brooklyn is the capital of culture in New York City and felt it was very important to have a comprehensive place where people could find out all about that," said BAC President Ella Weiss (pictured). "We think it's an invaluable resource to promote the arts and organizations that are the heartbeat of Brooklyn. These are the groups of people that make Brooklyn the place to be."

"Directory of Brooklyn Arts Organizations" (\$14.95, Brooklyn Arts Council) is available at Barnes and Noble (267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope). For information, call (718) 625-0080 or visit [www.brooklynartscouncil.org](http://www.brooklynartscouncil.org).

— Adam Rathe

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## JUNE is ROSE month

**June 1-30**  
Delight the senses with a multitude of blooming roses during June is Rose Month. With more than 5,000 varieties of nearly 1,000 different kinds, the world-class Brooklyn Botanic Garden Cranford Rose Garden is home to one of the most diverse rose collections in the country. Throughout the month, enjoy self-guided garden tours or take a weekend tour with Garden Guides (9 a.m. and 3 p.m.). The Garden and Gift Shop will feature a wide selection of rose-themed gifts.



OUTDOOR SUMMER CONCERT IN CELEBRATION OF JUNE IS ROSE MONTH

**Sunday, June 1 Noon-6 p.m.** Rain or Shine

Celebrate diversity at Brooklyn Botanic Garden with a colorful explosion of roses and jazz! Relax in the grass with an afternoon of innovative jazz, blues, and world music, and enjoy an all-star lineup of world-renowned musicians. Cranford Rose Garden tours led by the Garden's own expert Anne O'Neill and Garden Guides.



## gowanus goes green

sponsored by

An all day festival on the banks of the canal at

**the Yard**  
Sunday, June 1st  
11am to 6pm

Great music, natural food, educational workshops, kids activities and more for the whole family!!!!

Carroll Street on the Canal (between Bond & Nevins St.)  
featuring **THE DEFIBULATORS** playing at 12:00 and 2:30

For more information please contact Lauren Collins at (718) 838-9257 or lauren@gowanus.org

Free admission.

www.gowanuscanalconservancy.org

event sponsors:

The Brooklyn Paper, Boom, ROLLING PRESS, emphasis, and others.

### SATURDAY May 24



#### B.B. B'day

You've gotta hand it to the Brooklyn Bridge, the sure looks good for being 125 years old! And the borough is celebrating in style, with tours, art exhibits and films starring the bridge. "Where to Go" readers started their celebration on May 22 with the Grucc fireworks display, but the party continues through May 26.

For events, see "Nine Days in Brooklyn" (below), call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov.

### MONDAY May 26

#### Summer fun

It's Memorial Day, the unofficial kickoff of summer. So, whether you're heading out to Coney Island for a stroll along the Boardwalk, dusting off your white shoes or planning a backyard barbecue, enjoy the holiday and get ready for another hot spell in Brooklyn. For more information about the Bay Ridge Memorial Day Parade, see "Nine Days in Brooklyn," below.



#### 'Secret' opera

Tonight, famed director Jonathan Miller (Bach's "St. Matthew Passion") returns to the Brooklyn Academy of Music with "Il Matrimonio Segreto." The comic opera, about what happens when you keep secrets, is accompanied by members of the Brooklyn Philharmonic.

7:30 pm at the BAM Harvey Theater (651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene). \$30-\$50. For information, call (718) 634-4100 or visit www.bam.org.

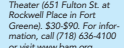
### WEDNESDAY May 28



#### 'Royal' treatment

Tonight, Williamsburg-based fashion line Brooklyn Royalty will celebrate its new studio and video look book with live music, fashion giveaways and a dance party. The first 100 people through the door — there is complimentary car service from the L train's Grand Street stop — will receive a free gift bag.

7 pm at 3rd Ward Gallery (195 Morgan Ave. at Stagg Street in Williamsburg). Free. For information, visit www.brooklynroyalty.com.



#### Just Joshin'

The Brooklyn International Film Festival kicks off tonight with a screening of "Able Danger" and a party at the Brooklyn Museum in Park Slope. This year's theme, "Citizenry," will be represented by 17 films, including "August," featuring Josh Hartnett (pictured).

7:30 pm at the Brooklyn Museum (220 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope). \$25. For information, see story on page 7, call (718) 388-4306 or visit www.biff.org.

### THURSDAY May 29

#### 'Royal' treatment

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## NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

### SAT, MAY 24

#### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

**BROOKLYN BRIDGE WALKING TOUR:** Ron Schweiger, the official historian of Brooklyn, gives a tour of the Brooklyn Bridge. 11 a.m. Meet at Manhattan side arch of the Brooklyn Bridge. (718) 802-3846. Free.

**BIKE RIDE:** The City Reliquary Museum presents its annual ride, celebrating the 125th opening of the Brooklyn Bridge. 55. Noon. Meet at the City Reliquary Museum, 370 Menophasia Ave. (718) 616-7111. Free.

**ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** Brooklyn Bridge's 125th Anniversary. 11 a.m. Green-Wood Cemetery historian Jeff Richman leads a tour of the gravesites of many of those who played a crucial role in the birth of the Bridge. \$20. 1 p.m. Reservations required. 25th Street and Fifth Avenue. (718) 768-7300.

**CATCH THE BUZZ:** See North Nature Center offers a talk about bees. 1 p.m. 332 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. Free.

#### PERFORMANCE

**DANCE AFRICA:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Bridge to Cultural Rejuvenation and Enlightenment." \$20 to \$45, half price for ages 16 and younger. 2 pm and 7:30 pm. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 634-4100.

**DANCE:** The Dance Project: "Out of Space." \$12. 510 students. 8:30 pm. 880. 647 Fulton St. 864. 81-4111.

**BARGE MUSIC:** "Here and Now" American Contemporary Music Series, with music of David Del Tredici. \$35. 815 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

#### OTHER

**FLEA MARKET:** hosted by the Church of the Holy Spirit. 9 am to 4 pm. 817 Bay Pkwy. (718) 837-0412.

**ARTISAN MARKET:** hosted by Fort Greene Park Conservancy. 9 am to 6 pm. Fort Greene Park. Daily sidewalk sidewalk perimeter. (718) 855-8175.

**DANCE AFRICA BAZAAR:** Annual event. Noon to 10 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music and Ashland Place. (718) 634-4100.

**PIER SHOW:** Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition presents the exhibit "Spring Aboard" featuring new works by more than 330 artists. 1 pm to 6 pm. Music with Jerry Hill and Liquid Horn. 499 Van Brunt St. (718) 596-2507.

**SCREENING:** In celebration of the Brooklyn Bridge's 125th anniversary, screening of "Brooklyn Bridge," directed by Ken Burns. 4:30 pm. BAM Rose Cinema, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 634-4100.

**BOUNCE MATCH:** hosted by Gleason's Gym. \$20. 310 gym members and amateur fighters with paybooks in hand. Weigh in at 5 p.m. match at 7 pm. (718) 797-2872.

**FILM SERIES:** Brooklyn Bridge Outdoor Film Series presents "It Happened in Brooklyn" (1947). Film begins at 8:30 pm; music at 9 pm. Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, enter at Main Street. Call 311 for information. www.nyc.gov/call311. Free.

### SUN, MAY 25

#### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

**TOUR DE BROOKLYN:** In honor of the Brooklyn Bridge's 125th anniversary, 18-mile bike ride through the borough. Check in at 9 am at Dock and Water streets in DUMBO. Line-up at 9 am. www.tourdebrooklyn.org.

**MEMORIAL PARADE:** Committee for the Eighty annual Greenpoint Veterans Memorial Parade honors veterans of all wars, living and deceased. 9 am. 519 Leonard St. The parade marches to St. Anthony's Church for a 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass. (718) 389-9853.

**BROOKLYN BRIDGE WALKING TOUR:** Ron Schweiger, the official historian of Brooklyn, gives a tour of the Brooklyn

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**BRIDGE TALES:** In honor of the Brooklyn Bridge turning 125 years old, the Urban Park Rangers of Fort Greene offer stories about some of Brooklyn's famous bridges. 1 pm. Meet at Visitor Center, high on the hill near the Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park entrance. Call 311 for info. Free.

#### PERFORMANCE

**BROOKLYN BRIDGE DANCE:** Dancers and musicians celebrate the Bridge's performance. 1 pm. Empire-Fulton Ferry State

### CIVIC CALENDAR

#### TUESDAY, MAY 27

**COMMUNITY BOARD 2:** Executive Committee. Long Island University (DeKalb Avenue at Flatbush Avenue Extension in Downtown), 6 pm. Call (718) 596-5410 for info.

**THURSDAY, MAY 29**  
Community Board 4, Landmarks and Land Use committees. On the agenda: Rezoning of the Governors Center, PS 32 (317 Hoyt St., between Union and President streets in Boerum Hill), 6 pm. Call (718) 643-3027 for info.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28**  
Community Board 2, Youth, Education,

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@BrooklynPaper.com

### MON, MAY 26

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**CATCH THE BUZZ:** See North Nature Center offers a talk about bees. 1 p.m. 332 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. Free.

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**CATCH THE BUZZ:**





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## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

**DANCE AFRICA:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Bride to Cultural Reproduction and Enlightenment." \$20 to \$45, half-price for ages 16 and younger. 3 pm. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

### Weds, May 28

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** hosted by the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. 5:30 am to 10 am. Brooklyn Chamber, 25 Elm Pl., suite 200. (718) 875-1000 ext. 121.

**OPEN HOUSE:** St. Charles. Jubilee invites seniors 60 and older to a day of free food



Reading music: The Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch kicks off its summer concert series on Saturday, May 31 with a show by Dittmas Park's Ladybug Transistor (pictured) and Antietam.

and activities. Tai Chi at 10 am; lunch from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm; party with live music from 1:30 pm. 55 Pierrpont St.

(718) 855-0326. Free. **CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL:** at Edward R. Murrow High School. \$5. 7 pm. 1600 Ave. L.

(718) 258-9283.

**BAM:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Il Matrimonio Segreto." \$20 to \$45. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 636-4100.

**BUDDHIST MEDITATION:** Advice for a happy life. \$10. 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm. 8515 Ridge Blvd. Www.kadampny.org.

**ORAL HISTORY THEATER:** 651 Arts presents Ting Chong and Talvin Wilks in "Deltia Rising." Program is designed to help communities confront and overcome cultural inequality by encouraging a greater understanding of the commonalities that bind us all. \$12. 8 pm. BRC Studio, 57 Rockwell Pl. (718) 636-4181.

### Thurs, May 29

**BLOOD DRIVE:** hosted by the Brooklyn and Staten Island

Blood services. 2 pm to 7:30 pm. Borough Hall Community Blood Drive, Borough Hall Plaza (enter at Court and Remsen streets). (800) 933-BLOOD.

**SCHOOL PLAY:** "Soldados Island." 4 pm. PS 8. 37 Hicks St. (718) 634-6740. Free.

**LAWN CHAIR THEATER:** Salt Mark Nature Center hosts an outdoor movie series. Tonight: "Hoot," a family movie about a boy's plight to save owls. 7 pm. Bring a lawn chair. 3302 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. Free.

**STUDIO WARMING:** Opening for Brooklyn Royalty's video look-book. Fashion, music, gift bags and open bar. No cover. 7 pm to 11 pm. 195 Morgan Ave. (717) 349-9155.

**DOCUMENTARY SCREENING:** "A Hole in a Fence," by D.W. Young looks at an abandoned lot in Red Hook, and issues of development, class and identity.

by 7:30 pm. Waterfront Museum, 200 Broadway St. www.aholeinafence.com. Free.

**BAM:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Il Matrimonio Segreto." \$20 to \$45. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 636-4100.

**SUNDANCE INSTITUTE:** Opening night at the Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "American Teen" (2007), a documentary about five teens from a small town in Indiana. \$15. 8 pm. From party follows; live music, drinks and spilled punch. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

**JAZZ:** Liz Magnus plays jazz piano. 5:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

**ORAL HISTORY THEATER:** "Un-desirable Elements Project." See Weds., May 28.

### Fri, May 30

**METROCARD:** Mobile staff assists those aged 65 and older, and people with disabilities, in obtaining their Reduced Fare MetroCard. 10 am to noon. 155 Kings Hwy. (718) 236-1596. Free.

**ARTS ON THE COMMONS:** Outdoor concert series presented by Metrocard Business Improvement District. Today: Dandelion tunes, bluesy ballads, big band swing, polkas and 1950s rock tunes with Linda Impanema and the Dixie Cats. Noon to 2 pm. Metrocard Commons, Metrocard Center (enter at Myrtle Avenue and Jay Street). (718) 488-8200. Free.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** hosted by the Brooklyn and Staten Island Blood services. 2 pm to 7:30 pm. Borough Hall Community Blood Drive, Borough Hall Plaza. (800) 933-BLOOD.

**SHABBAT IN THE PARK:** The Jewish Reconstructivist Federation welcomes Shabbat in and a catered community dinner. Rabbi Shoshana Leifer and Avi Fox-Rosen lead. \$18. \$10 kids. 6:30 pm. The Grecian Shelter, Prospect Park (enter park at Parkside and Ocean avenues). (212) 510-3483.

**SILENT AUCTION:** hosted by the Williamsburg Charter High School. Open bar, buffet, valet parking and more. \$65 per person; \$120 couples. 7 pm to 11 pm. Prince Manor, 92 Nassau Ave. (718) 752-9830 ext. 219.

**PERFORMANCE:** the Beacon Program hosts their After School Spring Show, with children from LS-96 and 226. PS. 48 and 97. 7 pm. FAO Beacon Community Center, Avenue P and West 11th Street. (718) 232-2264. Free.

**SPRING CONCERT:** Edward R. Murrow High School presents a program featuring its Women's Chorus accompanied by its Symphony Orchestra. Also, Intermediate Band performs with Women's Chorus and Madrigal Choir. \$10. 7 pm. 1600 Ave. L. (718) 258-9283.

**GROOVIN' MUSIC:** PTA of PS 180 Harnessed School presents songs of the 1950s, '60s and '70s featuring The Rhapsody Players. \$15. \$10 seniors and kids. 7:30 pm. 5601 16th Ave. (718) 851-6870.

**BROOKLYN INTERNATIONAL FILM FEST:** Opening night presents "Abie Dango" (2008). Cast and crew in attendance. \$25. Opening ceremony at 7:30 pm. Film at 8 pm. Party with music, food and drinks at 10 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 398-7301.

**GOOD COFFEEHOUSE:** presents its Traveling Troubadour Series with Japan's blues guitarist Tokio Akasaka and Stefan Grossman. \$15. \$10 kids. 8 pm. 53 Prospect Park West. (718) 768-2972.

**BARCEMUSIC:** "Here and Now" American Contemporary Music Series, presents "Hand to Hand: Men a Man: A Program of Innovative Works for Piano Solo and Four Hands." \$35. \$15 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

**OUTDOOR FILM:** "The Endless Summer." 8 pm. Bring your own chair. American Playground, Franklin Avenue between Noble and Milton streets. www.cinenotlivejournal.com. Free.

### Sat, May 31

#### PERFORMANCE

**LIBRARY ROCK:** Antietam and The Ladybug Transistor perform on the Plaza. 2 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch, Grand Army Plaza. (718) 230-2100. Free.

**OPERA:** Regina Opera presents Verdi's "Il Trovatore." Opera is fully staged in Italian with superlatives and a 30-piece orchestra. \$20. \$15 seniors and students. \$5 teens, free for children. 7 pm. Regina Hall, corner of 68th Street and 12th Avenue. (718) 232-3555.

**MARK TWAIN CELEBRATION:** A giant "Train puppet overcomes the revelry, including a dramatic presentation of The War Prayer, period music, and readings from the "Train canon" and from Pam McAllister's new book about the "people's author." Treatments of all ages welcome. 6 pm. Park Slope United Methodist Church, Sixth Avenue at Eighth Street. (718) 495-3788. Free.

**BAM:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Il Matrimonio Segreto." \$20 to \$45. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 636-4100.

**SPRING REVUE:** Narrows Community Theater presents an evening of song and dance with music of Gershwin, Porter and Berlin. \$15. \$12 students, seniors and children. 8 pm. Salem Lutheran Church, 450 67th St. (718) 482-3173.

**BARCEMUSIC:** Classical music program featuring works by Kodaly and Beethoven. \$25. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

#### OTHER

**ARTISAN MARKET:** hosted by Fort Greene Park Conservatory. 9 am to 6 pm. Fort Greene Park, DeKalb Avenue sidewalk perimeter. (718) 855-8175.

**FLEA MARKET:** Annual event at Carroll Park. Crafts, original art, toys, games, housewares and more. 10 am to 5 pm. (718) 520-8259.

**INSIDE PEEK:** Brooklyn Historical Association hosts a peek inside the Brooklyn Bridge Park Master Plan. Learn what

See 9 DAYS on page 12

# A LOWER CABLE BILL?

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## A real 'Dahl'

Alison Kelly (inset) shot to fame as a contestant on the third season of the reality-fashion series "Project Runway," but the Williamsburg resident is still thinking locally.

On May 8, Kelly introduced an exclusive collection — under the Dahl label — of 24 women's tops, dresses and skirts, ranging from \$68 camisoles to \$148 dresses.

"I wanted the clothes to look like they could be found in a vintage store in Paris, but I wanted them to look modern as well," Kelly told GO Brooklyn.

She developed the collection — which is available at Alter, a Greenpoint boutique — with what she called, "[an] overlying theme: two birds kissing," a motif that appears in many of her pieces, including a black dress with hand-crocheted detailing (top) that is one of the most popular items so far.

"Everyone loves her stuff," said Tommy Cole, Alter's co-owner. He described the clothing as "feminine, but not girly" and "minimal in the color palette."



Kelly, who also designs jewelry under the name "Dahl & Dahl" — which is sometimes available at Fort Greene's Brooklyn Flea (Lafayette Avenue, between Clermont and Vanderbilt avenues, on Sundays) and, starting next month, at And Then Some (103 Bond St., between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street, in Boerum Hill) — might not have taken home the grand prize while she was on TV, but her collection will earn her high scores with fashionistas across the borough.

"I don't try to follow trends or make anything disposable," said Kelly. "I try to make things you want to keep forever, because you know [they're] special."

Alter (109 Franklin St. at Greenpoint Avenue in Greenpoint) accepts MasterCard, American Express and Visa. The store is open Tuesday through Friday from 1 pm to 9 pm, Saturdays from noon to 9 pm, and Sundays from noon to 8 pm. Closed Mondays. For information, call (718) 784-8818, or visit [www.alterbrooklyn.blogspot.com](http://www.alterbrooklyn.blogspot.com). — *Kate Ray*



## Swede deal

### Ikea's \$20 bargains

There are just a few more weeks left until Swedish home furnishings superstore IKEA opens its first New York City location on Beard Street in Red Hook.

GO Brooklyn couldn't wait for the June 18 opening (or the June 16 sneak peek promised on the IKEA Web site), so we took off for the Paramus, NJ store — which insiders say was the model for the Brooklyn store — to see what the planned location will offer.

We were amazed at the bargains to be found. Here's a list of what 20 bucks can get you: (Clockwise from top left) (1) KLAPPER VILD hand puppets, \$3.99 each; (2) ISIG gift cards, set of 40, 1 cent; (3) FINSS wastebasket, available in red, black or clear (pictured) polypropylene, \$1.99; (4) NOT floor lamp with steel base and polypropylene shade, \$6.99; (5) IDBYN magnetic clips, set of four, \$9.99; (6) SIGNE cotton rug, variety of color combinations, \$2.99; and (7) MATA four-piece child's dinnerware set that includes spoon, cup, bib and bowl, \$2.99.

IKEA spokesman Joseph Roth pointed out that while there are similarities between our soon-to-open IKEA and the Paramus location, Red Hook's will have an impressive view of the Statue of Liberty and lower Manhattan skyline from its top floor restaurant.

For our podcast featuring the Paramus store's showrooms, restaurant, food market and more, visit our Web site [www.brooklynpaper.com](http://www.brooklynpaper.com). For more about IKEA, visit [www.ikea.com](http://www.ikea.com). — *Lisa J. Curtis*



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## 'Dance all night

On Thursday, May 29, the sun will rise on the third year of the "Sundance Institute at BAM" series, a 56-film extravaganza straight from the screens of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. Although the films have been previously screened, this is no after-thought; Sundance founder and film giant Robert Redford has shown up for the past two opening nights and fingers borough-wide are crossed that he'll return this year.

"The 2008 Sundance Film Festival had an incredibly strong lineup of films. And this year's 'Sundance Institute at BAM' series certainly reflects it," said John Cooper, director of programming for the Sundance Film Festival. The range of the films is clear, from the June 8 screening of the Hurricane Katrina documentary "Trouble the Water," by Park Slopes Carl Deal and Tina Lessen, to the May 31 screening of first-time director Lance Hammer's "Ballast," which BAMcinematek Film Curator Florence Almorini called "one of my favorite features this year."

With 22 feature films and 36 short films, the Sundance choices at BAM offer something for every Brooklynite. Whether it's the opening night documentary, "American Teen" (pictured), which won the festival's Documentary Directing award for Nanette Burnstein, or the dark humor of "Choke," Clark Gregg's adaptation of the twisted Chuck Palahniuk book, this 10-day festival is nothing if not diverse.



"I'd have to say that the range of voices, new approaches to subjects we may have thought we knew everything about, [and] variety of countries represented all combine to make our jobs incredibly interesting," said Cooper. "I have been doing this for 20 years, and every year is unique."

And to kick off a series like this, popcorn and candy just won't do the trick. After the May 29 screening of "American Teen," moviegoers will be treated to a late-night, post-themed party at BAM with free beverages — courtesy of Suga 1763 vodka and the Brooklyn Brewery — and snacks, dancing and a laser tag exhibition.

The fun doesn't stop there, though. On Sunday, June 1, 12 hours of short films will be screened (in three sections, should you need a quick breather), and throughout the event, readings, live music and panels will take place, ensuring this "Sun" will shine brightly for another season in Fort Greene.

"Sundance Institute at BAM" opens at 8 pm on May 29 with a screening of "American Teen." Tickets are \$15 and include admission to the after-party. For a complete schedule, call (718) 636-4100 or visit [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org).

— Adam Rathe

## Sean gone

"I'm getting over an unusually rowdy night at Hank's last night," the frontman for country band Sean Kershaw and The New Jack Ramblers told GO Brooklyn. Kershaw and his crew have been playing a weekly gig at Hank's — the Atlantic Avenue dive bar with flames painted on its walls — since 2001, and while he's had plenty of wild nights there, at the band's last weekly gig nears, each Sunday evening has been like a going away party.

"I've been there since 2001," said Kershaw, a Fort Greene resident. "My old band, The Blind Phantoms, was the first band to ever play at Hank's — when it was called the Doray Tavern — and it was a place where the neighborhood was so bad, they had to buzz you in."

Times have changed, though, and as country music is no longer an anomaly in Brooklyn, Kershaw and his band are looking to branch out.

"It's been a big part of my life, of the band's life, and we've made a lot of friends," he said, "but at the same time, it's become

a bit of a crutch and has tied us very much to one location." So while the Ramblers will still make monthly appearances at the bar, the weekly show — the longest-running country music residency in the borough, according to Kershaw — will be no more after June 1.

Next month, the band will head to North Carolina to record an album, and after returning, will set out to make country fans of people beyond their Boerum Hill stomping grounds. "We need to start playing in other neighborhoods — we've played in every borough except Staten Island — but we want to make a bigger presence in New York," said Kershaw. "But we're going to maintain a toehold at Hank's."

Sean Kershaw and The New Jack Ramblers will play its last weekly show on June 1 at 9:30 pm at Hank's Saloon (45 Third Ave., at Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill). Free. For information, call (718) 625-8003 or visit [www.hankssaloon.com](http://www.hankssaloon.com).

— Adam Rathe

# 'Weather' report

New cocktail lounge is jewel box on Vanderbilt

By Adam Rathe  
The Brooklyn Paper

Seemingly overnight, the stretch of Vanderbilt Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Sterling Place in Prospect Heights has become one of the hottest nightlife crawls in the borough. Caught somewhere between a dignified night out on Smith Street and a debauched one on Williamsburg's Bedford Avenue, Vanderbilt boasts an impressive number of bars and eateries, but still has plenty of under-the-radar cool. A healthy portion of this newfound sheen is thanks to Weather Up, the three-month old cocktail lounge at 589 Vanderbilt Ave.

"My partner and I both live here — I live on St. Marks and he's on Prospect — and we just love the neighborhood," said owner Kathryn Weatherup. "We both knew what we wanted to do and the kind of bar we wanted to build. Matthew Madoli built and designed everything, and his ethos was that he wanted to make a place that was like a jewel box. That's why we did a white tile ceiling and a brass bar. We've got real Venetian plastering on the walls."

With no sign out front, only the slick, white tiling of the bar's facade will let you know that you're in the right place. Well, that and a crowd of smokers who look either effortlessly cool or completely bewildered by their surroundings. Weather Up doesn't need to have the biggest awning on the block, though, because what's behind the bar keeps patrons packed inside.

All of Weatherup's staff has been trained by Sasha Petraske, the master mixologist behind Downtown Manhattan drinking institutions like Milk & Honey and East Side Company. Preparing drinks like The Brooklyn — eye whiskey, maraschino liqueur and sweet vermouth — and the Honey-suckle — rum, lime and honey — all of which are served with metal straws and either freshly-chopped or cylindrical barrels of ice, the bartenders here don't need to sweat competition from the happy hour vodka-soda crowd.

"We wanted to keep it really simple," said Weatherup. "We basically took one drink that we really liked from each different category of cocktails. The menu is expanding all the time. We just added milk and we're adding egg whites in a couple of months."



Brooklyn Paper / Justin Cooper

### NIGHTLIFE

Weather Up (589 Vanderbilt Ave., at Dean Street in Prospect Heights) accepts cash only. The bar is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 7 pm to 3 am. Closed Mondays. The bar does not have a phone number or Web site.

The quality of the cocktails hasn't been lost on locals. "The drinks are kind of expensive, but they're really good. And I f—king love the cylindrical ice cubes," said Prospect Heights resident Brian Shinkovitz. "So far I've been going to start my evening with one or two drinks and then meeting a larger group of people in a cheaper, more raucous place. Prospect Heights is really becoming a cool area, and this is a great addition."

But Weatherup isn't stopping at cocktail lessons. \$15. 8 pm. 3009 Ave. 1 (718) 253-0939.

### SUN, JUNE 1

#### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

**BOERUM HILL HOUSE TOUR:** Eight houses, one newly opened lounge and one restored retail space are featured on the self-guided biennial Boerum Hill Association House and Garden Tour. New for 2008: audio tour you can download to your iPod. \$25. 1 pm to 5 pm. Tour begins at Bishop Mugavero Center, Hoyt and Pacific streets. [www.boerumhillbrooklyn.org](http://www.boerumhillbrooklyn.org).

#### PERFORMANCE

**DANCE:** "And Possibility: A Trance Dance About Traveling" presents a troupe of 10 dancers and musicians. Performers emerge from the crowd, conjuring images of a circus caravan, a band of traveling salesmen, a wayward tour group and a New Orleans Second Line band. Off-timed dances and scores promoting destinations from Arkansas and Indonesia are framed and sold by a simple, mobile set. Dancers wear their surroundings into the work, turning city life into the performance itself. 4 pm. Parkside Circle at Parkside Avenue and Ocean Avenue. (646) 265-6775. Free.

#### ACTIVIST MUSIC: Boom Boom and 651 Arts presents Sharde Thomas and the Rising Star File and Drum Band with Toshi Reagan and Big Lovely. \$20. 7 pm. Brooklyn Masonic Temple, 317 Clermont Ave. [www.masonicbroom.com](http://www.masonicbroom.com).

#### CIRCUS SUNDAYS: Professional acts from around the world. \$18. \$10 kids. 1 pm and 4 pm. Waterfront Museum, 200 Conover St. (877) 238-5595.

#### OPERA: "Il Trovatore." 3 pm. See Sat., May 31.

#### OTHER

**POETRY:** Shortform 1M-YHHA presents poet Mark Mordunovich and Friends in an evening of Jewish poetry. \$10. 4 pm. 3300 Coney Island Ave. (718) 646-1444.

## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 10

is proposed. 10:30 am. 135 Joralemon St. Limited space for B&B members only. (718) 858-9193. Free.

**INDIE MARKET:** offers handmade items. 11 am to 7 pm. Smith Street between Union and President streets. (947) 407-1187.

**PIER SHOW:** Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition presents exhibit "Spring Ahead" featuring new works by more than 330 artists. 1 pm to 6 pm. Music with Story Hill and Liquid Hues. 499 Van Brunt St. (858) 596-2507. Free.

**PUNCH-A-THON:** Center for Anti-Violence Education hosts its third annual Punch-a-thon to raise funds for free self-defense education and training for survivors of domestic violence and relationship abuse. Participants are invited to learn martial arts, punching and basic self-defense techniques from trained instructors. Purchases include Borough President Marty Markowitz and Assemblywoman Joan L. Milstein. 1 pm to 3 pm. Prospect Park at the grassy triangle between the entrance

and exit roads at Grand Army Plaza. (917) 373-8337. Free.

**GALLERY SHOW:** BAG Gallery presents "Roccos and Poses," a group show by contemporary artists. Reception from 6 pm to 9 pm. 168 Seventh St. [www.brooklynartistsgym.com](http://www.brooklynartistsgym.com). Free.

**SINGLES SUMMER KICK-OFF:** Join hundreds of singles of all ages from throughout the tri-state area for a hot Italian buffet dinner, dessert and live music in a cozy, cafe atmosphere. \$15 at the door. 7 pm. First Evangelical Free Church, 6501 Sixth Ave. (718) 836-0029.

**SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE:** Salt Marsh Nature Center hosts a Soak Hop. Enjoy a night of dancing to the oldies and other classics. Dress for the weather as you dance under the stars. 7 pm. 3302 Ave. U. Call 311 for info. Free.

**DANCE PARTY:** Dancefloor Studios hosts a party and salsa

### LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in Nine Days in Brooklyn, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail: [calendar@brooklynpaper.com](mailto:calendar@brooklynpaper.com); by mail: 650 Grand Ave., The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

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## OUR OPINION

# Credit where due — and not

Many elected and appointed officials deserve credit for the wonderful new map, lighting and signage that will help countless tourists find their way from the end of the Brooklyn Bridge footpath to the cultural and historical wealth that Brooklyn has to offer.

The installation, called "This Way," is outstanding and worthy of the praise it is receiving.

That said, forgive us for not genuflecting before the burghers of power in this borough, but the \$1.5-million lighting and signage project was so long overdue that it boggles the mind that officials like Borough President Markowitz would actually stand at a podium, as he did at the Wednesday unveiling, and celebrate the achievement.

Given how little it actually cost to get the artwork, signs and lighting commissioned, fabricated and installed, why did tourists — and the natives who are constantly called upon to direct them around Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO — have to wait more than a decade for some-

thing as simple as a few signs and a map?

A decade ago, a Brooklyn Heights woman named Roslyn Beck, on her own initiative, started hanging up handmade directional signs in Cadman Plaza Park and around the bridge. For a while, city workers actually tore down the quaint, small-town-ish wayfinders until they realized that Beck maintained her signs a lot better than an official map nearby that stood for years — for years! — covered in so much graffiti and stickers that it was entirely useless.

Even media coverage of this gross affront to our international guests failed to shame the bureaucracy into even just cleaning up the sign!

On Wednesday, we asked Markowitz why a simple map and guide at the foot of the borough's premier tourist attraction took so long — and his answer amounted to a stunning admission of ineffectiveness.

He graciously credited the DUMBO Improvement District, which has done a good job enhancing city services in a neighborhood with barely enough residents to show up on

the radar of the various public agencies.

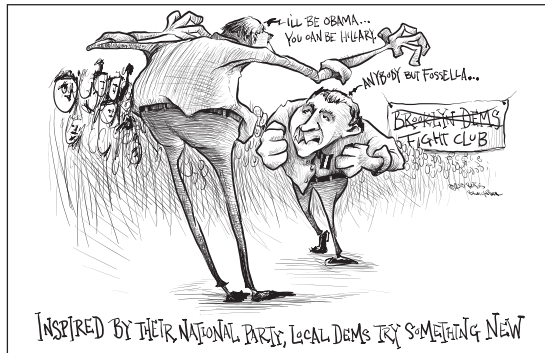
"We need a partner like the DUMBO Improvement District to make things like this happen," Markowitz said. "My office can't just do it ourselves. We can't come up with a design, build it and install it ourselves, you know."

No, we didn't know. Call us naive, but we shudder at the thought that our elected officials are impotent to accomplish even the simplest civic improvements, no matter how clearly they are needed.

Coming from Markowitz, who has made tourism a centerpiece of his entire public persona, it's especially galling. Indeed, he told the New York Times that tourists had been facing "a comedy of errors" as they "searched for the entrance to the most-famous bridge on the planet."

Forgive us if we don't laugh at Markowitz's "comedy." His failure on this, his singular issue, is just more evidence that he is indeed Brooklyn's main cheerleader — in other words, someone who remains on the sidelines while other people are actually competing in the game.

## ALL DRAWN OUT



## LETTERS

# More fallout from recent Atlantic Yards letters

To the editor,

I certainly can relate to last week's letter from Leon de Augusto ("This guy faults Ratner and Atlantic Yards foes," Letters, May 17).

As an African-American living near the footprint of Atlantic Yards, I understand his feelings about the apparent "inner-city cultural divide" between the opposition and their "minority neighbors."

I say "apparent," because there are minority neighbors involved in the fight, but not in the numbers that we in the opposition would like. Check out photos of the events that have been posted to numerous Web sites. We people of color are there.

Augusto said that Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn "has failed to persuade [its] mi-

nority neighbors that Ratner is fooling them again, this time through surrogates," but Ratner apparently has not fooled you. I'm sure you're not the only one.

I urge you, previous letter writer Thomasina Millet ("Mixed messages," Letters, April 26), and others who have not been fooled by the developer's public relations campaign to attend one of the many fund-raisers, movie screenings, public hearings, protests and other events. It will take more people of color to regularly show up at these and other events to make it clear that the fight is not about race or color.

We don't need another Metrotech.

Tracy Collins, Prospect Heights

\*\*\*

To the editor,

Leon de Augusto and Thomasina Millet should be pointed to a photoblog I posted from the Brooklyn Museum protest at <http://kingstonlounge.blogspot.com/2008/04/brooklyn-museum-ratner-protest-card-i.html>.

Not only were a wide variety of people of various colors on hand, but a wide variety of ages, economic statuses, and so on were in this crowd. It's wrong to suggest that everybody at this protest — or everybody who is opposed to Atlantic Yards — looks like Daniel Goldstein. There are plenty "people of color" who oppose this project. Richard Nickel, Jr., Weeksville

## Two sides of Gehry

To the editor,

Your recent news item — "Hypocrisy Alert!" (May 17) — suggests an inconsistency between the Municipal Art Society's longstanding criticism of the Frank Gehry-designed Atlantic Yards project and the organization's recent architectural merit award to its LAC building in Manhattan.

We don't see any hypocrisy. The MAS criticized the Atlantic Yards proposal for its poor planning and the total failure of its public and private sponsors to meaningfully engage the public. The MAS presented an award to the LAC building because it was selected by an independent jury as one of the best new buildings in New York City.

The fact that both projects are designed by the same architect is immaterial. In the same awards ceremony, we honored Forest City Ratner, the developer of the Atlantic Yards project, by naming the New York Times Building one of the best new buildings in the city.

The MAS criticizes projects when we feel they will negatively impact the city, and we honor those that enhance the city. Those judgments are based on the projects themselves, not on who designed or developed them. Kent Barwick, Manhattan

The writer is president of the Municipal Art Society.

## Bare market

To the editor,

What we need here in Bay Ridge is very large supermarkets ("Bay Ridge Key Food to close," May 3). Many of us still feel the loss of the A&P that had been located at 68th Street and Fourth Avenue!

I remember hearing at that time that another supermarket was going to take its place, but when that didn't happen we had to travel out to Key Food or to Foodtown.

It's nice to have a choice as to what is on sale here or there and then make the choice of where to shop. Truthfully, the last thing we need is another bank or drugstore.

What is happening to our neighborhood?

Patricia Corbett, Bay Ridge

## Vito hurts pals

To the editor,

Ideologically, Rep. Vito Fossella was a very good fit for his conservative district ("Vito's shame," May 10), but he rarely made it to this side of the Verrazano Bridge. Now we know why! He was spending all his free time in Virginia!

Bob Caputo and Fossella's small staff in Bay Ridge picked up the slack in all kinds of different ways. I saw them at meetings and events nearly every night and heard

how they handled every constituent demand from big to small. And now they're stuck on this sinking ship.

Caputo has proven the ability to work on both sides of the aisle (remember, he was Democrat Marty Markowitz's right-hand man). He obviously has electoral ambitions, so it's time to abandon ship, Bob, and be your own man!

Carl MacDonald, Bay Ridge

## What's your 'Issue'?

To the editor,

Though we are delighted to see Issue Project Room get well-deserved press coverage ("Valentia's Issue" at Board of Ed building," May 17), we feel the need to add an additional perspective to the article.

The rationale for offering a rent-free deal as opposed to offering full capital renovation is that many in the not-for-profit arts community tell us that it is easier for the institutions to raise capital dollars than funds

for their general operating budgets.

Not only did we subsidize Issue Project Room by waiving \$225,000 in annual rent for their space, we have made a significant capital contribution to the built space.

Two Trees has an exemplary record of supporting the arts in Brooklyn. Every year we give away or heavily subsidize more than 100,000 square feet of space for artists and arts organizations like St. Ann's Warehouse, Smack Mellon, and Pratt Institute. The foregoing rent on these spaces is several million dollars a year.

We also support festivals, public art, performance venues, galleries, artist residency programs and individual artists with both space and monetary contributions.

We believe that Brooklyn's arts scene is part of its fabric and we have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with that community.

Jed Valentia, DUMBO

The writer is a principal of Two Trees Management.

## CORRECTION

An article in our last issue ("70 years and going strong," May 17) put Vienna in Germany, not Austria. What are you going to do; our coverage of Brooklyn tends to be better than our coverage of Europe.

Also, an article about the Quaker cemetery in Prospect Park ("Quaker notes," April 19) wrongly suggested that the Brooklyn Historical Society sponsored a June 28 event. Information can be had from the Quakers themselves at (718) 625-8705.

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### SMART mom

By Louise Crawford



The Edgy Mom Reading concept has a life of its own. And she knew that Sohn, the ultimate edgy mom, would be the perfect partner in crime.

Within days, Sohn had managed to attract a top-notch group of writers. The May 15 reading, at the packed Montauk Club in Park Slope, was a stunning success. Christine Clifford, who stars in the one-woman show called "Baby Love" at the 45 Bleecker Theater, entertained and even shocked the crowd with a monologue about, yes, masturbating while breast-feeding.

Midway through the monologue, Smartmom spotted the Oh So Feisty One sitting in the front row.

"I can't believe there's a girl listening to this," she said covering her eyes.

This embarrassed the 11-year-old OSFO more than Clifford's tales of vibrators and breast milk

and she walked out of the reading with her aunt, Diaper Diva. Smartmom was sorry that Clifford made a fuss. OSFO probably would have stuck with her hero along with her own words.

"Was I worried? Yes, a little. But it didn't strike me as that daring, either," Skensay said. "Isn't New York as safe now as it was in 1963? It's not like we're living in Baghdad."

After the reading, Sohn and Smartmom raffled off goody bags donated by Babeland, the sex toy store that will open in June on Bergen Street near Fifth Avenue.

Smartmom isn't sure if Skensay appreciated the gift. As she left, she handed it to Diaper Diva and said, "I don't need this."

Smartmom doesn't think she was offended. A few days after the reading she sent this note: "The event was stupendous in that everyone (except me) wrote about something so intimate, so openly that it made anyone worried about being TOO edgy feel like, 'Well, at least I'm not hiding my vibrator under the door-

### A Tell-All Guide To Becoming a Single Mom

Finally, Lenore Skensay read her column from the New York Sun about the time she let her 9-year-old ride the subway. For Smartmom, it was thrilling to see her hero laugh along with her own words.

"She is unconventional; she views the world through a different pair of lenses than what she was raised with," said Romero. "She is resolute in this pursuit and does it with a great sense of conviction, purpose, and doesn't need to apologize to anyone, least of all her own mother."

Romero added that an edgy mom isn't afraid to expose her frailties and vulnerabilities to her children.

"I allow them to express their anger, frustration and disappointment with me without fear of reprimand," she said.

Best of all, like Smartmom, Romero watches "Gossip Girl" with her daughter. Unlike Smartmom, she still struggles with her teenage son and watches re-runs of "Star Trek Voyager."

Teen Spirit would rather die. Later that evening, Smartmom explored her goody bag from Babeland. Inside, there was a hot pink vibrator, a mojito and peppermint-scented candle, a container of Babe Lub (whatever that is), and a silver, egg-shaped vibrator with a controller that looks like a dimmer switch.

Smartmom isn't sure what all this has to do with being an edgy mom, but she does know that a major tenet of edgy momdom is that a woman's desire for creativity and pleasure doesn't stop when she has kids.

In fact, it's a great time to explore who you really are. Louise Crawford also writes "Only the Blog knows Brooklyn," a Web site.

### FAMILY CALENDAR

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay



"Thom Cat" will be unspooled at the Brooklyn International Film Festival on Sunday, June 1.

**SATURDAY, MAY 24**  
11 am: Story time. Barnes and Noble (100 Court St., at State Street in Downtown Brooklyn). Free. Call (718) 246-4996 for info.

**SUNDAY, MAY 25**  
12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Pinocchio." Puppetworks 1238 Sixth Ave., at Fourth Street in Park Slope. \$7. Call (718) 965-3391 for info.

**SUNDAY, MAY 26**  
2 pm: "African Rhythms: Animated Stories for Children." Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave., at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). \$11. Call (718) 636-4100 for info.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 1**  
Noon: Brooklyn International Film Festival. Annual Kids film fest. Brooklyn Lyceum (227 Fourth Ave., at President Street in Park Slope). \$10. Call (718) 385-4306 for info or visit www.kidfilmfest.org.

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### It also made me realize that there are at least seven great women writers out there, bringing everyday life into the world of glittering yet supremely accessible prose — and poetry."

Over drinks after the show, Smartmom and crew tried to define "edgy mom."

"She's a mom who views imagination (both living it and imparting it) as integral to child-rearing, which flies in the face of the holy 'mom' idea, whereby one is supposed to grow out of being imaginative," Somerville said.

"She is unconventional; she views the world through a different pair of lenses than what she was raised with," said Romero. "She is resolute in this pursuit and does it with a great sense of conviction, purpose, and doesn't need to apologize to anyone, least of all her own mother."

Romero added that an edgy mom isn't afraid to expose her frailties and vulnerabilities to her children.

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## 'PARK' SLOPE IS UNMOVED

## Cars sit, while non-drivers fume



Trash is piling up in Park Slope, where street cleaning is on hold.

By Sarah Portlock  
The Brooklyn Paper

Park Slope's alternate-side-parking amnesty has been in effect for just a few days, but it's already bubbled over into a battle of car owners and car hater.

Car owners loved being able to skip the weekly parking shuffle, while those without the so-called horseless carriages were already bemoaning the deteriorating cleanliness of local streets — which can't be properly swept because cars are no longer required to be moved from the curb.

As a result, leaves filled the streets on Monday morning — and it had only been a week since the last cleaning. On Union Street, an ice cream spoon, plastic shopping bag, and Starbucks coffee bag lay there, blowing in the wind and avoiding, for the next few months, the Sanitation Department's brooms.

But this is how it will be until the Department of Transportation finishes installing new "No parking" signs on all of the neighborhood's residential streets. The new signs will reflect new regulations that will reduce "No parking" hours from three hours to 90 minutes on street-sweeping days.

Even though it'll be a summer of no "No parking," Slope car owners are already seeing how difficult it is to find spots.

Take Jim Anderson. He left his prime spot Monday morning to run a quick errand, but was unable to find a good spot upon his return.

"I thought with the rules lifted, that wouldn't be the case," he said. "And many residents — car owners and non-drivers alike — think their cool, tree-lined streets will turn into Brooklyn's hot new parking lot."

"You see there's a parking spot here," said Peter Panucci, pointing at a vacant bit of curbside real estate on Fifth

Avenue. "But [next week], I'll have to come early to find a space if I can find a space. The cars don't move — what do you do?"

And, like all things in writer-heavy Park Slope, everyone was talking. On Day 3, the Gowanus Lounge blog started a "Park Slope Parking Watch" in which a correspondent will photograph the same spot on a street every day to check if cars have moved. So far, one car has sat unmoved for three days straight.

For information about the alternate-side-of-the-street amnesty, head to [www.nyc.gov/dot](http://www.nyc.gov/dot) or call Community Board 6 at (718) 643-3027.

## Gardens man: I'll rock 'World'

By Sarah Portlock  
The Brooklyn Paper

Could "The Real World: Brooklyn" actually be "The Real World: Carroll Gardens"?

One week after the network's reality show announced that it would tap its 21st season in Brooklyn this summer — an announcement that fueled speculation that its seven housemates could inhabit neighborhoods from Williamsburg to Coney Island — one Gardens property owner said he has the inside track on snatching the show's players from hipster neighborhoods.

The owner of a gorgeous, six-story, five-unit, gut-renovated brick rowhouse on Third Place said MTV is negotiating to rent the whole building — which sits on a block that Time Out New York once called one of the 25 best in New York.

"We entered into negotiations," the property owner said. "We finalized some negotiations at least six weeks ago. My understanding was that MTV did approve the location — but we're still in negotiations."

The elevator building's apartments have new appliances, mahogany floors, a cool, hip, 1970s vibe — and five units that range from \$1 million to more than \$2 million.

The Third Place building owner's claim is counter to earlier reports that MTV was eyeing other areas. The Brooklyn Paper reported exclusively last week that producers had negotiated with owners to use the Bell Tel lefts on Wilkough Street in Downtown.

"Real World" Executive Producer Jim Johnston said he wants his last and crew "to be close to Manhattan" and confirmed they were looking in Carroll Gardens, but said no lease had been signed yet.

"Real estate these days, renting, it's all gray until you lock something down," he said.

An MTV spokeswoman said there were no updates from last week's starting news release.

Filming could start as early as July, and MTV producers typically spend two months retrofitting the house before beginning the four-month shoot.

The show will air in early 2009 and Johnston said he picked Brooklyn for its "cachet" and "vibrancy."

Lately, Brooklyn has appeared to be the Bell Tel lefts on Wilkough Street in Downtown.

"I miss the days when those shows were dealing with race and gender — I hope that's what we'll get this time," said Powell. "Until they do, I'm going to be one of those people who doesn't watch reality TV."

MTV launched the modern reality television genre in 1992 by filming seven twentysomethings in Manhattan, and allowing viewers to watch as their personal and professional lives unfolded on screen.



MTV's 'Real World' is scouting this Third Place building to house its contestants.



Until this week, this was all that greeted tourists exiting the Brooklyn Bridge.

## TOURISTS...

Continued from page 1

Brooklyn-Queens Expressway overpass on Washington Street, the only assistance coming from a useless graffiti- and sticker-covered map several yards away (left).

"We came over just to walk back over the bridge and we couldn't find [the way back]," Dutch tourist Dini Moorlander said after she was unable to master the area.

Few tourists ever were. The other day found Barry Freney, a tourist from English-speaking Northern Ireland, frustrated and unable to find his way around the area.

"Back home, we have special signs for tourists," he said.

Though local officials congratulated themselves and the city for the new signage, the problem has been acute for years, if not decades.

The situation got so dire a few years ago that a Brooklyn Heights woman, Roslyn Beck, posted her own handmade signs to direct the tens of thousands of tourists who walk the bridge every year.

DUMBO developer David Walentas, known for turning the once-industrial area into a thriving residential and office district as well as a destination for tourists, said the outcome of the way-finding initiative "couldn't be better."

"It's something that needed to be done," he said.

Walentas's son Jed, heir to the real-estate magnate's empire, noted the immediate benefits of the signs, one being that Brooklynites will no longer have to serve as tour guides for the influx of visitors that come to the historic location.

"You can't stand here for more than four minutes without being stopped," Walentas said of people seeking directions. He said the large map on the wall of the underpass was much needed, adding, "We see people using it as we speak."

Markowitz and Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) allocated the funding out of their discretionary budgets, Reed said.

The multi-faceted design consists of Andrew Simon's huge map and numerous directional signs.

"Welcome" — mat style concrete slabs positioned at the opening of the stairwell that leads up to the Brooklyn Bridge.

But the most impressive part of the project is light artist Linnea Tillett's piece, "This Way," whose network of fluorescent bulbs steer misguided travelers to their destination.

"There was such a need to turn this dark, uninspiring space where people were confused into something vivid," said Tillett, who worked with architect Karin Telve. "The lighting and signage works together to show people the way."

So now, Roslyn Beck can finally put down her toolbox. "Now my work is done," she said.

## 'Sign lady' finds new guide 'lovely'

The Brooklyn Paper

The patron saint of all wayward Brooklyn tourists says her mission has been accomplished.

Roslyn Beck, the Brooklyn Heights woman who has spent a decade making and installing her unique directional guides in and around the long-hidden Brooklyn Bridge footpath, said this week that city has finally gotten it right.

"I'm out of the business," said Beck, after checking out the long-overdue signs, map and new lighting that now greet tourists on the DUMBO side of the fabled bridge (see main story).

"They look lovely," she said.

Beck's praise for the city finally puts her on the same page as local officials, whom she long neglected the area underneath the bridge, allowing it to remain dark and uninviting, with no more than an outdated, graffiti- and sticker-covered map to greet the money-spending out-of-towners.

To compensate, Beck hung her own signs that pointed bridge pedestrians to major tourist attractions such as the Promenade and historic Brooklyn Heights.

She faithfully replaced the signs "every two years" or so, she said — unlike the city, which was eventually shamed into taking greater action.

So now, Roslyn Beck can finally put down her toolbox. "Now my work is done," she said.

## TERRACE MURDER

Continued from page 1

Ten minutes later, a witness told police she saw Winter lowering the security gate and driving off in Woo's 2008 Honda Accord.

A concerned customer found Woo's body the next morning and called cops, who say they were able to track down Winter by lifting his fingerprints from

a bottle he left in the store.

On Sunday, police nabbed Winter — who still had the key to Woo's car, cops said — in his apartment, which is located between Fifth and Sixth.

But neighbors can't figure out why Winter wasn't behind bars on the night of the crime.

Winter was on parole after Woo, cops said.

"It's ridiculous that a mistake like this can lead to the death of someone in the community," said Windsor Terrace resident Damian Esteban. "It's indicative of greater problems in the legal system — a lot of people slip through the cracks."

Even though cops arrested a suspect, the neighborhood remains on edge after the violent crime on the quiet avenue.

"It's great that they caught the guy — that makes me feel at least a little protected, but I'm still concerned," said Noah Webb, 51. "I'd rather that kind of stuff not happen here in the first place."

Windsor Terrace resident Rachel Regalos, 34, is equally shaken.

"I get worried seeing that kind of thing happen in the neighborhood," she said. "It's hard to feel safe when people are getting attacked right down the street from you."

Customers and friends were scheduled to gather at the store where bouquets of flowers and handwritten notes line the sidewalk and security gate — on Thursday night to pay respect to Woo.

Inside, hundreds of garments, still wrapped in plastic, hang from the racks of the neighborhood's loss.

—with Emily Levin

## FOSSELLA...

Continued from page 1

nine three weeks of controversy that began with his May 1 arrest for drunk driving and a subsequent admission that he had sired a daughter with Fay.

Despite weeks of salacious reports about his and Fay's taxpayer-funded junkies to Europe, Fossella had offered signs of late that he intended to seek re-election.

Indeed, he unexpectedly policed his way around the banquet room at Staten Island's Conservative Party dinner last week and marched in a Memorial Day parade in his district on Sunday.

But he abandoned the race because he gradually began to see that he could not win, insiders said, because national party officials would not waste valuable resources and political capital to protect a scandal-tarred congressman.

"Basically, incumbents are responsible for their own elections, so the national party can focus on challenger races so they can win seats back from the Democrats," said Brooklyn Republican consultant Gerry O'Brien.

Until Fossella's drunk-driving arrest, the 2008 election was shaping up to be a rematch of the 2006 campaign between six-term incumbent Fossella and Democratic challenger Steve Harrison.

Harrison, a Bay Ridge lawyer and former community board chairman, won 43 percent of the vote against Fossella, despite paltry fundraising and no support from national Demo-

cratic officials.

But Fossella's retirement has thrust the election into turmoil, sending elders in both parties back to the smoke-filled room to pick worthy candidates for the rare open seat.

None has officially taken the plunge for the GOP — though candidates need to begin gathering signatures on nominating petitions by early June.

The smoke should clear, at least on the GOP side, after Staten Island's Republican county convention next week. Several leading contenders — such as Staten Island state Sen. Andrew Lanza or his Bay Ridge counterpart Marty Golden — are unlikely to run because they are vital to the party's effort to retain a majority in Albany.

That sets it up for Staten Island District Attorney Dan Donovan — but if he won, Gov. Paterson, a Democrat, would get to pick his replacement.

Other names being floated include Richmond County Clerk Stephen Fiala, a former councilman, and Councilman James Oddo (R-Staten Island), who will be forced out of office next year because of term limits.

On the Democratic side, Harrison remains in the hunt, though his knee-challenger for the nomination, Councilman Domenic Recchia, has been sending signals that he won't continue in the fight.

"Domenic is out of the race. He's no longer a candidate for personal and family reasons," Brooklyn Democratic party boss Vito Lopez told the New York Times, though Recchia later denied that claim.

Also mentioned on the Democratic side is Councilman Michael McMahon (D-Staten Island), who said that Harrison, despite his head start and performance two years ago, is the outsider.

"I credit his tenacity, but it's Political Science 101 that to win a competitive seat like this you're going to need a proven record official with Election Day success in the past," McMahon told The Brooklyn Paper.

Other names bandied about include state Sen. Diane Savino (D-Staten Island), Assembly member Michael Cusick (D-Bay Ridge), and Assembly member Peter Abbate (D-Dyker Heights).

The nomination of Staten Island names is by no means coincidental; the island comprises roughly two-thirds of the district.

As long as the district is even as his own clear path to the nomination gets murkier.

—with Emily Levin

## After Vito, a horse race

The race in the Fightin' 13th congressional district is shaping up to be a scrappy affair with Democrats and Republicans jockeying for scandal-tarred Rep. Vito Fossella's seat. Here's how the fields in both parties look:

| NAME, JOB, PARTY                                  | ODDS | EXPERTS' COMMENTS   |
|---|------|---|
| Steve Harrison, Bay Ridge lawyer, Dem             | 8-1  | The front-runner before everyone else got interested, he lacks support from the party bosses.   |
| Michael McMahon, Councilman, Staten Island, Dem   | 2-1  | How hungry is he? Even though he hasn't announced, he came out swinging against Harrison this week.   |
| Peter Abbate, Assemblyman, Dyker Heights, Dem     | 40-1 | None of his Assembly district is in Staten Island, making him virtually unknown to two-thirds of voters. But union families love him.   |
| Diane Savino, State Senator, Coney Island, Dem    | 10-1 | She's well known on both sides of the Verrazano, but with state Democrats poised to control the state Senate for the first time in years, she may want to stick around and reap the benefits. |
| Michael Cusick, Assemblyman, Staten Island, Dem   | 40-1 | Ethnically challenged in the Italo-centric district. Plus, he's virtually unknown.  |
| Domenic Recchia, Councilman, Coney Island, Dem    | 8-1  | He's banked \$380,000 for the race, but his commitment is unclear. The Kings County boss already said he's out.   |
| Vince Gentile, Councilman, Bay Ridge, Dem         | 8-1  | Nobody's talking about this legislator with Staten Island experience from his state Senate days — but they should be.   |
| Dan Donovan, Staten Island District Attorney, GOP | 2-1  | The cleanest GOP pol on the island — and national party leaders have already reached out.   |
| Stephen Fiala, Richmond County Clerk, GOP         | 80-1 | He's the county clerk, for Pete's sake.   |
| Andrew Lanza, State Senator, Staten Island, GOP   | 12-1 | Popular with voters, but the GOP can't afford to lose his Senate seat.  |
| James Oddo, Councilman, Staten Island, GOP        | 4-1  | Needs new job because of term limits — plus, he showed true grit when he stood up to Scandinavian TV pranksters in that legendary YouTube moment.   |

## Vito's wife speaks!

The Brooklyn Paper

On Wednesday, the New York Post printed what it said was an e-mail written by scandal-tarred Rep. Vito Fossella's wife. Here is the full text of the missive:

"This has been a very painful time for my family and I. I have known Vito since I was 16 years old and this is not what I envisioned for him and my family. I had no idea this world he was living in was so painful to everyone else's. My focus will continue to be on [my] three children."

—Mary Pat Fossella





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